

April 29, 2009

Meeting held at El Centro de la Raza

Needs:

- More parks – especially “pocket parks” in between small parts of the neighborhood
- Improve and expand the children’s park at El Centro de la Raza
- Community swimming pool
- Walking trails/bike paths
- Affordable housing for low income earners/ develop south El Centro property next to tunnel
- No immigration status questions for renters
- Community health clinic
- Legal clinic
- Access to technology at no cost, with training on how to use
- Indoor Community gymnasium
- Performing Arts Center for youth which can be rented out to community for special events (especially if near train station)
- Improved traffic lights, reduced speeds
- Pedestrian barriers between traffic and pedestrians
- Safe access to Rainier Avenue
- Safety in at train stations, especially in and around the tunnel (concern about youth/loitering)
- Short-term free parking for small trips, errands, quick shopping and pick up of purchased items
- Long-term parking for non-resident train riders
- El Centro housing development should contain indoor parking and store fronts at street level and should include a kiosk and a fountain and a Latin American food market
- Riderships costs, transfers and parking permits need to be affordable for working people
- Small vehicle transportation in and around the neighborhood
- Public transportation access to West Seattle
- More open spaces for children, youth and families to gather
- More Social Services and Resources
- Free ESL classes for both English and Spanish speakers (Dual language)
- Vocational training
- Activities and events to get to know each other and understand the many cultures
- Gathering place with auditorium and small rooms to encourage community use/rental

Vision for neighborhood Businesses

- Pharmacy
- Butcher shop
- Fruit stand
- Farmer’s market
- Laundromat
- Beauty shop
- Botanical store/herb shop

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- Quick stop/shop store for essentials at regular prizes (unlike 7-11 and others who have exorbitant prices for food and other items)
- Taqueria
- Arts and crafts store, including textiles
- More restaurants and coffee shops

Positive Impacts of Light Rail service

- Trains are good for the environment
- Fast travel saves time

Negative Impacts

- Fear of increased crime as more people travel through or move into the community